

N.H. Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2009

Attendees: Chris Powles (sca-nrcs), Doug Cygan (nhdamf), Florence Peterson (usfs), Christine Perron (nhdot), Kevin Lucey (nhcp), Katie Arey (gbnerr)

Updates:

1. A second CWMA in New England was recently formalized through a MOU. The Sudbury Asseabet Concord Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (SuAsCo Cisma) in Massachusetts is a dedicated group committed to controlling invasive species in the SuAsCo River watershed area. You might note that that SuAsCo is focused on all invasive species including insects. A member of SuAsCo is interested in attending a future CWIPP meeting. For more information contact: Jeff Collins at Mass Audubon (jcollins@massaudubon.org or 781-259-2159).
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/greatmeadows>
2. Odiorne Point State Park: 'Community Supported Invasive Plant Control' - The Seacoast Science Center, Rockingham County Conservation District, NH Coastal Program, and NH DRED are implementing a multi-phased strategy to control severe infestations of invasive plant at the Park.
 - 2.1. On April 22, 2009- 200 volunteers helped clear invasive plants from common areas at Odiorne. Timberland, Inc provided significant in-kind resources in the form of volunteers and equipment.
 - 2.2. The SSC and RCCD will release an RFP on Friday May 22 that will support invasive control at the Park. The RFP will have two options for interested parties to bid upon. Option 1 includes the GPS mapping of invasive plants, an archaeological sensitivity analysis specific to invasive plant control, and the development of an Invasive Plant Control Plan for Odiorne Point State Park. Option 2 involves implementation of pilot invasive plant control project on a 2.8 acre parcel near the main gate of the seacoast science center. Funding for this project is provided by the New Hampshire Coastal Program, the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership, and the US Forest Service.
3. The New Hampshire Coastal Program has awarded a grant to The Nature Conservancy to support invasive plant control at Lubberland Preserve in the Crommet Creek Watershed. This project is the culmination of several years of GPS mapping and resource planning. The funds will support on-the-ground control projects and an early detection rapid response initiative within the 125 acre preserve.
4. The New Hampshire Coastal Program is initiating the second year of an Early Detection Rapid Response Initiative for Perennial Pepperweed.
 - 4.1. The NHCP has secured the approval of the town of Hampton and the New Hampshire Division of Pesticide control to apply a foliar spray of Aquamaster to a 5,000ft² infestation of pepperweed in the Hampton Seabrook Estuary. This is one of only two confirmed pepperweed sites in NH. Vegetation Control Service, Inc. of Athol, MA has been selected to implement the project with a target date of early July.
 - 4.2. An NHCP intern will conduct targeted outreach and education in summer 2009 to raise awareness throughout coastal towns about the ecological threat of pepperweed. Mapping throughout the Hampton Seabrook Estuary will also be conducted.

- 4.3. In Massachusetts, pepperweed has been found to be moving along Route 1 and Interstate 95. We don't suspect that Pepperweed has made its way to NH highways yet, but Christine Perron (nhdot) agreed to include Pepperweed in her presentations to District 6 NHDOT Road Crews. At this point early detection is key. The NHCP intends to reach out to coastal DPW's as well.
5. Proposed Changes to Pesticide Rules:
 - 5.1. Doug Cygan reported on his presentation to the Pesticide Control Board on May 11 regarding potential regulatory barriers to effective invasive plant control. Doug presented five regulatory barriers that inhibit effective control of invasive plants: 1. Right of Way Rules (aka. Brown Out), 2. Labeling Restrictions, 3. Abutter Notification Requirements, 4. Special Permit (waiting period), 5. Waiver Process. The Board expressed interest in the presentation and consequently, a subcommittee composed of members of the Board, Doug, an herbicide applicator, etc, was formed to analyze the current rules and potential changes that could be made to improve the permitting process for invasive species control projects. Doug suspect that new rules could be proposed by the end of the year.
6. CWIPP has been invited to participate at the Northwood Area Land Management Collaborative (NALMC) Discovery Day event on July 11 at Northwood Meadows State Park www.nalmc.net. The event will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the park, with a goal of educating local landowners on things like wildlife, forests, water resources, etc in the local area. The format of CWIPP participation can range (an exhibit or informational display about invasive species, or whatever information you might have to share). If this is something of potential interest to you, please contact Maryalice Fischer at the contact information below. P.O. Box 289 Northwood, NH 03261 603-664-5097 maryalice@nalmc.net, Florence Peterson and Katie Arey expressed interest in presenting the "Its your Choice" presentation that was given last year to landowners in the great bay watershed.
7. The NHDES Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan is under final review with a revised completion date by the end of 2009.
8. Pulling Together Initiative: The Pre- Proposal is due June 30, 2009. Several ideas were discussed; however, past experience with PTI proved that the pre proposal has extensive requirements. I encourage everyone to consider ideas, sources of match, and a potential fiscal agent for a PTI proposal.
9. Doug Cygan is implementing his third year of Garlic Mustard control on Peirce Island in Portsmouth. Doug intends to be out in Portsmouth sometime during the week of May 24-29. Give Doug a call (271-3488) if you want to help pull some Garlic Mustard.
10. Invasive Plant Control Fact Sheets: Three factsheets have been developed that have been initially reviewed for content by the Division of Pesticide Control. The intended audience for the factsheets are resource professionals and land managers. The factsheets aim to provide guidance for invasive plant control in the context of NH's regulatory framework. Once the format, content, and layout have been approved, CWIPP will begin to populate additional factsheets for the other invasive plants. Action: Kevin will forward factsheets to the CWIPP steering committee for review prior to final review by the Division of Pesticide Control.
11. Next Meeting. Thursday July 2, 2009 at 9am at the US Forest Service Office in Durham, NH

HAPPY ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY CWIPP
May 20, 2008